

DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of all Sizes

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IMMEDIATE TEMPORARY POSITIONS AVAILABLE WITH SBA OFFICE OF DISASTER ASSISTANCE

ATLANTA - In response to Hurricane Katrina, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is hiring temporary employees, throughout the Hurricane Katrina disaster affected areas, to assist with its disaster recovery efforts.

"SBA needs to hire additional staff in the affected areas to help to meet the demand for low-interest loans to homeowners, renters and business owners," said SBA Acting Area Director Frank Skaggs.

Immediate positions are available for Construction Analysts (damage verifiers), Customer Service Representatives (CSR), and Field Loan Officers. Construction Analyst positions require general computer knowledge and experience in residential or commercial construction. Customer Service Representatives should have experience in providing information and assistance to the public concerning financial matters. Field Loan Officers should have experience similar to the CSR's and experience in analyzing financial data and making credit decisions.

The jobs are temporary but could last as long as 6 months to a year, or even longer. "These are paid positions that include overtime," added Skaggs. Annual salaries can range from \$27,500 to \$50,500 annually depending on experience, with overtime hourly rates of \$19 to \$33. SBA is looking to hire at least 300 damage inspectors and 400 loan officers and customer service representatives immediately.

To apply for the positions, resumes can be faxed to 202-481-2901 or emailed to: <u>DA2HR@sba.gov</u>. Extensive travel and overtime are required, along with credit and background checks.

SBA works in conjunction with Federal Emergency Management Agency, and anyone affected by Hurricane Katrina who applies for assistance with FEMA may be referred to the SBA for disaster loan assistance. "To meet the needs of the victims referred to SBA we would like to get people on board as soon as possible," Skaggs said.

Following a disaster, SBA is a major player and the primary source of long-term recovery financial assistance for homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes and private nonprofit organizations that suffered losses. SBA provides disaster loans for uninsured or otherwise uncompensated losses. Interest rates can be as low as 2.687 percent for homeowners and renters, and 4 percent for businesses. Loan terms can be up to 30 years.

For more information visit SBA's website at www.sba.gov/disaster